# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# DEFENCE
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2121
ANSWERED ON:11.03.2013
DEATH OF NCC CADETS
Sugavanam Shri E.G.

**Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:**

(a) whether some National Cadet Corps (NCC) cadets who were at the national level trekking camp in Kerala recently drawned in the Periyar river;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government has provided any assistance to the next-of-kin of the dead and ordered any inquiry into the accident;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the measures taken / proposed to be taken by the Government to check recurrence of such incidents

## Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. An all India NCC trek attended by 750 NCC cadets was conducted from 23rd to 30th December, 2012 at Malayattoor forest range, Ernakulam, Kerala. As per the preliminary report on 26.12.2012, the cadets had lunch break as per schedule in a Mahagaony grove at Mulankuzhi (Malayattoor forest range) situated near river Periyar. After lunch, some of the cadets went towards the river for a photo session. Unfortunately, one of the cadets slipped from a rock and fell into deep end of the river and got entangled in a whirlpool. On hearing for help, four other cadets jumped into the river one after another in order to save him. The mishap resulted in death of all the five NCC cadets. The cadets belonged to NCC Directorate, Delhi and the names are as under:-

(i)Cdt Hemant Kumar

(ii)Cdt Gulvez Ahmed

(iii)Cdt Dilshad Alam

(iv)Cdt Tabish Baqri

(v)Cdt Mohammed Zeeshan.

(c) & (d): Yes, Madam. The next-of-kin of the NCC cadets have been provided following assistance:-

(i) DG NCC - Rs.4 lakh

(ii) Delhi Government - Rs.4 lakh

(iii) Kerala Government - Rs.2 lakh

A Court of Inquiry has been ordered. A judicial inquiry has also been ordered by the State Government of Kerala.

(e) All possible safety measures have been taken to avoid recurrence of such incidents. Some of the additional measures taken are as under:-

(i) All NCC camps to be controlled by the concerned Group HQr and also to be attended by a minimum of 03 officers.

(ii) Reconnaissance and planning of all locations to be visited by the NCC cadets well in time.

(iii) Squads of 10 cadets with a Squad Leader to be nominated under NCC Officers / Associate NCC Officers / Permanent Instructional Staff.

(iv) No camps or trek routes to be planned near rivers or water bodies.

(v) Detailed coordination with District authorities including assistance required in an emergency.

(vi) Training on safety orientation to Associate NCC Officers during their training at NCC Officers Training Academies.

(vii) Review and identification of sensitive areas in respective States where camps / treks are conducted.

(vii) Further reduction of strength in treks for better monitoring.